

## **ATHLETIC TRAINERS TO BE LICENSED BY THE STATE OF MICHIGAN**

Public Act 54 of 2006 was officially recognized by the Secretary of State's office on March 9, 2006. This amends the Public Health Code to provide for the licensure of athletic trainers. This bill takes effect officially on December 1, 2006.

The regulation of any health professional is intended to ensure the general public that the people who are identified as a specific type of health professional are qualified to practice. Even when a profession has been working in the health care industry for a number of years without regulation, establishing requirements for licensure are setting the stage for the future of the profession. The passage of legislation requiring regulation of a profession is only the first step.

With the passage of this bill, the Governor has to appoint an Athletic Trainer Board which consists of four athletic trainers, two physicians (osteopathic or allopathic) licensed to practice in Michigan and one public member.

The Department of Community Health, in consultation with the Board, will develop administrative rules that establish the minimum standards for licensure. The development of rules is a detailed and lengthy process. The rules must identify the standards by which all applications are evaluated. The proposed rules will be available at this website as soon as they become available for review by the administrative agencies prior to the required public hearing.

Applications for licensure and the actual issuance of licenses can not begin until the rules have been developed and formally approved. This process can take 12 – 18 months. At this point, we expect to begin the application and licensure of athletic trainers no earlier than January 2008. Periodic updates will be made to this website as the program progresses.

If you wish to receive an application for licensure, you can submit your name and address to us at [bhpinfo@michigan.gov](mailto:bhpinfo@michigan.gov) at any time. We will distribute applications to those on our list in late 2007.

Thank you for your patience.